



Meet Your Board of Director Candidates

SASKATOON CO-OPERATIVE ASSOCIATION LIMITED

SEPTEMBER 2020



Graham Addley

Graham Addley is completing his first term on the Saskatoon Co-op board and first year as President and Chair of the Board. Born in Loon Lake, Graham moved to Saskatoon to study at the University of Saskatchewan, earning a Bachelor of Arts-Advanced Degree and completing 27 credits of a Masters of Public Health.

Graham served as Regional Development Manager with Saskatchewan Transportation Company, Director of Mission Programs and Acting CEO with the Heart and Stroke Foundation and Director of Communications, Development and Alumni Relations with the University of Saskatchewan.

He served nine years on Saskatoon Credit Union Board, seven as President. An active member of the community, Graham served on the Aboriginal Subcommittee of Saskatoon's Race Relations Committee, Cosmopolitan Industries board member, and President of The Word on the Street festival. Graham served two terms as a Member of the Legislature, five years as Deputy Speaker and Vice President of the Commonwealth Parliamentary Association. He served as chair of the Standing Committee on Crown and Central Agencies, Chair of Private Bills Committee and Chair of the Government Caucus Committee on Economic Issues. He served as a member of the Standing Committees on Communications, Constitutional Affairs, Estimates, Municipal Law, Non-Controversial Bills and Regulations, and the Legislative Instruments committee.

The Lung Association of Saskatchewan presented Graham with their Award of Merit for outstanding service for his work on the all-party Special Committee for Tobacco Control. Graham was appointed as the Legislative Secretary to the Premier on Substance Abuse, Prevention and Treatment, and his report, Healthy Choices in a Healthy Community was the basis for the Premier's Project Hope. He served as Cabinet Member with several portfolios including Healthy Living Services, Seniors, Investment Saskatchewan and ISC.

Graham is married to Karen and they have three sons and two grandchildren.



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Patricia Atkinson

Pat Atkinson is a teacher by profession. She served in the Saskatchewan Legislature representing Saskatoon-Nutana. During her 25 years as an elected MLA, she held several senior ministerial portfolios, including Finance, Crown Investments Corporation, Transportation, Rural Revitalization, Health, Education, Social Services and Post Secondary Education.

She has chaired governing committees, which included Treasury Board, Public Sector Bargaining, Planning and Priorities, Social Development and Regulations and Legislation. She is considered a governance expert.

Before she was elected a sitting Member of the Legislature, she was involved in numerous civil society organizations and cooperatives.

She has served on the board of the Saskatoon Community Clinic and the Cooperative Housing Association of Saskatchewan.

Presently she is a volunteer at the Saskatoon Community Clinic and is a Patient and Family Advisor to the Saskatchewan Health Authority, where she is mentoring College of Medicine Students and advising the Neuroscience Division at the Royal University Hospital. She has served on the interview committee for people who have applied for senior management positions with the Health Authority.

Over the years, Pat gained exceptional experience in governance, public policy development and implementation. She is the longest-serving woman parliamentarian in Saskatchewan history.

Since leaving elected office in 2011, Pat has worked internationally and nationally with public servants, journalists, civil society organizations and parliamentarians. She has spent most of her time as a trainer teaching citizens about financial accountability and governance. She has worked in transitional and post-conflict democracies, including Afghanistan, Pakistan, Libya, Russia, Myanmar and Ukraine.



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Norm Bemis

Born and raised in Swift Current, Saskatchewan. Married in 1974 to Ellen. Five children and eight grandchildren. Started working for Pioneer Co-op in Swift Current, Saskatchewan in 1975 as an assistant manager for the Service Station on 777 Cheadle St. West. Worked there for approximately three years and transferred to Assiniboia Co-op as a Service Station manager. Again, after approximately three years, transferred to North of 53 Co-op in Flin Flon, Manitoba as Service Station and Bulk Petroleum Manager. Around five years later, moved to Regina with Sherwood Co-op as Gas Bar Manager and moved to Saskatoon in 1996 to manage the Saskatoon Co-op Service Station in Westview until 2010 when I retired. In 2011, I started with the Board of Directors of Saskatoon Co-op.

My background is working with and understanding the Co-op system with a success in managing several locations. I have enjoyed working with the Saskatoon Co-op Board of Directors. We have had some interesting, difficult and successful times. I remain dedicated to working in harmony and moving forward in a positive manner.



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Donna Crockett

I have a passion to help grow the Saskatoon Co-op by listening and responding to the needs of you, our members. I grew up on the farm, now live in small town Saskatchewan and work and socialize in Saskatoon. I look forward to being a voice for all members, for the greater good of the Saskatoon Co-op. I live in Hepburn where my husband and I have raised our two children and have been very involved within the community and surrounding areas as volunteers. Three years ago I retired from my own successful business of 23 years in the Sask. Valley area as a Registered Massage Therapist. I am currently employed as the Agricultural Service Writer for Redhead Equipment in Saskatoon. My previous board experience of 5+ years on the Hepburn Co-op board will be an asset to being an active director on this board. In 2019, I became a liaison for the Hepburn & Area Co-op to the Saskatoon board and in early 2020 was appointed by the board to temporarily replace a departing board member. I look forward to embracing this opportunity and would appreciate your vote of confidence.



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Ron Frey

I was born in Watrous, raised on the family farm and received my elementary and high school education in Watrous. I married my high school sweetheart and have two adult children.

My passion has always been construction, and I owned and operated a small construction company for just over 32 years, retiring in 2019.

My entire life has revolved around some sort of volunteering and board participation, from coaching minor ball, to serving on the curling club, church council, Heritage Centre and Kinsmen Club. I have always tried to do my part in making my community a better place to live. I was honored with a life membership in the Watrous Kinsmen Club, and was privileged to have served on three Telemiracle committees.

I have been a member of the Saskatoon Co-op for over 40 years. I was a board member of the Watrous Co-op for 14 years in total, spanning different stages in my life. I was part of the team that worked on the amalgamation of Watrous and Saskatoon. Having experienced that process, I feel I can offer insight should another opportunity arise. I served as a Liaison for Watrous, to the Saskatoon Co-op board, and was asked to fill a board vacancy this past year.

My philosophy is and always has been, to leave what I join in better shape than when I started. As a rural self-employed individual, I have lived and understood the concerns and challenges that a member in a small centre experiences. My goal is to always do what is in the best interest of all our members. I believe that my past board experience in Watrous, my short time on the board in Saskatoon, and my rural roots make me a good fit for the Board table.

I ask for your support.



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David Thieme

I have been on the board of Saskatoon Co-op for six years. I currently hold the position of secretary on the Executive Committee, serve as chairperson of the Finance & Audit Committee, and a member of the Governance Committee. I have been on Member Relations and Sustainable Growth, Facilities & Environment Committees.

My background is Manager of Food Stores and owner/operator of C-Stores. I am recently retired which gives me more time to volunteer with the Saskatoon Downtown Lions Club, Crohn's & Colitis, Diabetes Canada, and Sutherland School. I believe it is important to support the community through volunteerism.

I appreciate the opportunity to serve as a board member for Saskatoon Co-op. This has provided a great chance to learn. I believe in the co-operative principles and support the direction our co-op is taking. I am proud of our employees and management team that work hard to make our co-op a success.

I would appreciate your support in continuing for another term.